

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending herein. Claims 12-15 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

1. The disclosure was objected to for an informality, and has now been corrected. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the objection to the disclosure be withdrawn.

2. Claims 1 and 7 were objected to for an informality, and have now been corrected. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the objection to Claims 1 and 7 be withdrawn.

3. Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112. Claims 1 and 5-7 have been amended, including the suggestions made by the Examiner. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-9 are in full compliance with §112. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of Claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. §112 be withdrawn.

4. Claims 7-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Stuber et al. (U.S. Patent 5,478,810).

In a telephone interview with Examiner Liu on August 23, 2004, it was agreed that Claims 7-9 would be in condition for allowance if Claim 7 was amended in the manner suggested by the Examiner in the second paragraph, on page 4, of the Office Action. Claim 7 has been amended in the suggested manner. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of Claims 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Stuber et al. be withdrawn.

5. Since Claim 7 is now considered to be allowable, it is respectfully requested that Claims 10-11, depending from Claim 7, be rejoined and allowed.

CONCLUSION

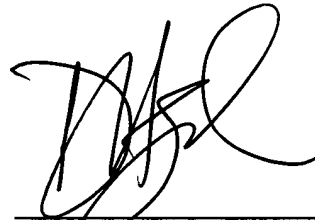
For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-11 are in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejections and objections and allowance of these are earnestly solicited.

It is believed that no fee is due for this submission. However, should that determination be incorrect, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 01-0433, and notify the undersigned in due course.

Appl No.: 09/931,009
Amdt. dated August 23, 2004
Reply to Office Action of April 29, 2004

Should the Examiner have any questions or wish to discuss further this matter, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DAGARWAL', written over a horizontal line.

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